Application No.: 10/625,408

Reply to the Office Action dated: June 15, 2004

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, as amended, in view of the following remarks.

Applicants have amended Claim 1 by including the limitations of Claim 18 which was not rejected over the prior art of record. Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 1, 2, 7, 9-12, 17, 20 and 22 over Kato et al (U.S. 5,459,005), the rejection of Claim 16 over Kato et al (U.S. 5,459,005) in view of Electrophotography to Schaffert, pp. 318-329, and the rejection of Claims 23-25 over Kato et al (U.S. 5,459,005) in view of Mashimo et al are obviated.

Further, the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection of Claims 1, 2 and 7-25 over Claims 1, 2, 7, 10-25, 33-50 of copending application no. 09/985,347 is obviated by the Terminal Disclaimer filed herewith.

The rejection of Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph, is is respectfully traversed. Applicants wish to draw the Examiner's attention to page 42, line 23 to page 43, line 8, of the specification. Mixtures of surface treating agents are supported, for example, at line 26 of page 42. Thus, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge that all references cited in the **Information Disclosure Statement**, **filed** in the above-identified application on **July 23, 2003**, have been considered. Notably, the Examiner did not initial **reference AX** on page 1 of 4 of the Form PTO 1449. For the Examiner's convenience a copy of page 1 of 4 of Form PTO 1449 as filed on July 23, 2003, is attached herewith.

Application No.: 10/625,408

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This application presents allowable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass it to issue. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the claims or otherwise wish to discuss this case, he is kindly invited to contact Applicants' below-signed representative, who would be happy to provide any assistance deemed necessary in speeding this application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.									

